

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By the Office Action, claims 4-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, claims 1-4, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102, and claims 6, 7, 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103. By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7-9, and 11-16 are amended to further clarify the subject matter being claimed. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 4 may be found, for example, on page 4, lines 1-8, of the present specification; and support for the amendments to claims 4 and 8 may also be found, for example, in claim 1. Thus, no new matter is added by the above amendments. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Information Disclosure Statements

The Office Action asserts that Applicants failed to provide a copy of French Patent Publication No. 2150608, as well as a publication authored by Baliga et al. However, Applicants have reviewed the Image File Wrapper in the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. The entries in the Image File Wrapper filed on August 28, 2006 include copies of the aforementioned documents. Furthermore, Applicants note that the outstanding Office Action includes art-based rejections, which cite the aforementioned French patent publication. Therefore, it appears that the Examiner has considered this document. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the aforementioned documents by initialing the corresponding Form PTO-1449.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 4-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Without agreeing with or acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants note that claims 4 and 8 have been amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Coron (French Publication No. 2 150 608, hereinafter "Coron").

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, asserting that Coron fails to disclose all of the elements of the claims.

In contrast to the claimed method of bolometric detection, the claimed bolometric device, and the claimed method of detecting infrared radiation, Coron merely discloses ferrite and iron oxide compounds that may absorb infrared radiation or convert infrared radiation into heat. However, Coron fails to disclose the recited bolometric detection method or device that converts a change in temperature produced from infrared radiation into a change in resistivity in the recited sensitive element having a spinel ferrite structure, as recited in claims 1 and 4 (and similarly recited in claim 8).

For at least this reason, Applicants submit that Coron fails to disclose each and every element of claims 1, 4, and 8, as required for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Coron thus does not anticipate claims 1, 4, and 8 (and the claims dependent therefrom).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 6, 7, 13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Coron. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that Coron fails to disclose, and likewise fails to teach or suggest, all of the elements of claims 4 and 8, from which claims 6, 7, 13, and 15 ultimately depend. Coron fails to provide any reason or rationale for one of ordinary skill in the art to have taken the ferrite and iron oxide compounds of Coron to practice the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants submit that Coron fails to disclose or to have rendered obvious all of the elements of claims 6, 7, 13, and 15.

The cited references thus would not have rendered obvious the claimed invention.

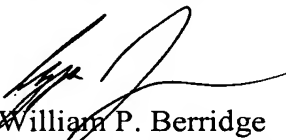
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Substitute Abstract

Date: April 22, 2009

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